

SINA KHANI

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EDUCATION

Virginia Commonwealth University, Richmond, VA

Master of Fine Arts in Photography & Film, GPA: 3.95

Sharif University of Technology, Tehran, Iran

Bachelor of Computer Engineering, GPA: 3.85 (or 18.07/20)

SELECTED CREDITS

Tell The Wind Too — 63' narrative feature film, Jan 2024 | Iran

Writer, Producer, Director

- Best Experimental Feature at Portoviejo Film Festival, 2025
- Won Asian Most Popular Actor at Cambodia Asian FF, 2025
- Official Selection: New York City Independent Film Festival, 2025 | TINFF, 2025 | Regina International Film Festival, 2025 | Onirica Film Festival | Sacramento Underground Film and Arts Festival | "First Features", Institute of Contemporary Art at VCU
- Collaboration with more than 30 people
- Editor: Esmaeel Monsef, Cinematography: Farhad Talebinejad
- Sound: Ramin Abousedgh, Music: Saeed Shahram
- Actors: Naeim Salehi, Ali Rahimi, Mohammad Ali Ebrahimi

Sunlight, Veiled — 14' narrative short film, May 2025 | VA, USA

Writer, Producer, Director

- Multiple Screenings at the [Institute of Contemporary Art at VCU](#)
- Collaboration with more than 20 people
- Editor: Attila Ghalebegi & Vaish, Cinematography: Aram Riazzi
- Actors: Yasmin Pacella, Kourosh Parsapour, Marlene Hoffmann, Aitor Martin, Eliza Hackathorn

PARVAZ (working title) — 30' YouTube Series, Jul 2025 | CA, USA

Editor

SKILLS

- Screenwriting
- Digital Photography
- 35mm & Medium Format Analog Photography
- Color Grading & Image Correction
- Studio & Natural Lighting
- Talent Direction & Collaboration
- Producing & Crew Coordination
- Ingest/Turnover
- Motion Graphics
- Script Sync
- Davinci Resolve
- Adobe Premiere Pro
- Adobe Photoshop
- Adobe After Effects
- Avid Media Composer

HONORS & AWARDS

Graduate Teaching Assistantship, VCU Graduate School

Recipient of Graduate Research Grant of \$2,500, VCUarts

Member of Iran's National Elites Foundation since 2018

Ranked 63rd in National University Entrance Exam 2018

-Known as Concours, Mathematics & Physics Discipline
-134,183 contestants (Top 0.05%)

Ranked 425th in National University

- Editing an 8-episode series that starts with following an airport owner and learning about his craft and his personal stories.
- Director: Attila Tayefeh, DP: Arman Meinecke

The Christmas Switch — *Vertical Series*, 2025 | CA, USA

First Cut Editor

- Editing a 62-episode series produced by Purple Filter Production

Watch With The Weary Ones — *7' short doc*, Apr 2024 | USA

Editor, Sound, Cinematographer, & Director

- **Official Selection: ULTRAcinema | Woman, Life, Freedom Film Festival**
- A quiet observational piece on loneliness and diasporic routine
- Screened at Whereabouts—VCUarts Candidacy Show, Richmond, VA
- Farhang Film Festival Nominee

Freshet — *10' narrative short film*, Jan 2016 | Iran

Writer, Editor, Cinematographer, & Director

Stepmother — *15' narrative short film*, Oct 2022 | Iran

Director's Consultant

- Official Selections: EIFF | Côté Court
- A film by Piano Sano Films and Ilhan Shah Film Production
- Writer & Director: Negar Naghavi, Actor: Pantea Panahiha
- Cinematography: Adib Sobhani, Production Designer: Kamyab Aminashayeri

Static — *5' narrative short film*, Apr 2025 | USA

1st AD

- AFI Visual Essay

Untied — *11' narrative short film*, Jul 2025 | CA, USA

Assistant Editor

- Calarts Thesis Film

Comfort Food — *narrative short film*, Jul 2025 | USA

On-set DIT

- AFI DWW+ film
- Director: Reena Dutt, Editor: Varun Viswanath

Entrance Exam 2018

-Known as Concours, Art Discipline (Not My Discipline At High School)
-62,625 contestants (Top 0.7%)

Bronze Medal in Mathematical Olympiad of Iranian Adolescents, June 2014

-Ranked 31st out of 25,000 contestants (Top 0.15%)
-Middle School Olympiad by Mobtakeran

Introduction to Mentoring

-A badge issued by Virginia Commonwealth University

PHOTO EXHIBITIONS

This is temporary— DePillars Gallery, Richmond, VA

13 October 2023 - 26 October 2023

-“Inevitability” photo series

PODCASTS, INTERVIEWS, & PUBLICATIONS

VCU Scholars Compass

Published 13 May 2025

-Sunlight, Veiled: Thesis

First Features: Q&A

3 May 2024

MFA Thesis Screening: Q&A

2 May 2025

Sifter: Podcast

Published 24 April 2024

-My screening at the ICA on May 3rd.

Style Weekly

Viseur — 11' narrative short film, Oct 2022 | Iran

Assistant Editor

- Editor: Attila Tayefehghalebeigi

Luck — 5' narrative short film, Mar 2023 | Iran

Cinematographer & Co-editor

- Director & Co-editor: Farzad Sohrabi Navid

FILM INSTALLATIONS

Loss Angels — 2' video installation

Chocolate & Cigarettes— DePillars Gallery, Richmond, VA

31 Oct 2024 - 15 Nov 2024

Director, Editor

To Become a Stone — 6' video installation

Either Or— DePillars Gallery, Richmond, VA

28 March 2024 - 12 April 2024

Director, Cinematographer, Editor, Sound Design

Call Me More Often — 12' video installation

Dec 2023

Director & Editor

WORK EXPERIENCE

Dorna Robotics, Upland, CA

— Video Director and Editor

May 2025

Video Director for ads

Scriptwriters Network

— Script Evaluator

September 2024 - Ongoing

Provided in-depth evaluation for feature screenplays in the High Concept Screenplay Program

Published 1 May 2024

-The Art of Introducing Yourself

[WRIR](#)

Published 26 April 2024

- He made his first feature at 23

[VCU Thesis Exhibition](#)

Published March 2025

[MFA Thesis Screening | Q&A](#)

Published March 2025

TA EXPERIENCE

Mentoring students through the completion of their capstone project

Thesis Film I, Fall 2024

Professor: Sasha Waters Freyer

Thesis Film II, Spring 2025

Professor: Mark Boulos

REFERENCES

Sasha Waters Freyer

Phone: (319) 621-6499,

swfreyer@vcu.edu

Mary Beth Reed, Associate

Professor

Phone: (804) 399-0454,

mbreed@vcu.edu

Mark Boulos, Associate

Professor

Phone: (804) 840-3116,

mboulos@vcu.edu

Prashanth Kamalakanthan

Phone: (919) 673-0093

prashanthkamalakanthan@gmail.com

Santa Fe International Film Festival, Santa Fe, NM, USA

— *Screener*

April 2024 - August 2024

& January 2025 - August 2025

Evaluated narrative shorts and features as part of the festival programming team

VCU Photo + Film Equipment Checkout

— *facility manager/ checkout assistant*

Spring 2024

The Anderson Gallery, Richmond, VA

— *Exhibition Documentation*

August 2023 - May 2024

Documented gallery exhibitions and receptions

Ava Cultural House, Tehran, Iran

— *Teaching Assistant*

June 2021- May 2023

Assisted filmmakers Farzad Motamen and Saeed Roustayi in teaching directing workshops